

School of the Air
Bible University

Macedonian Call

"Come Over into Macedonia and Help Us."—(Acts 16:9)

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God Won't Answer Some Prayers



**In Prosperity
They Spurn God**

**In Adversity
They Pray Him**

**In Prosperity Again
They Forsake Him**

LOOK at our picture long and thoughtfully. With complacency the man and woman walk past the house of worship on the Lord's Day. The boy joins the religion-free spirit of his parents as he goes whistling along. But when the man thinks he is going to die, they all pray fervently for God to spare him. When the man recovers, they all soon forget their promises to live more faithfully. They go whizzing past the house of prayer on the Lord's Day, to visit their friends or to revel at some resort. And yet when they get into trouble again, they cry to God to save them from it. What ingratitude! What aubricity! Yet is not that the true picture of most of the American people?

Rickenbacker and his soldier pals drop into the great Pacific Ocean with their exhausted airplane. They drift for 21 days. They have no food. They have no water. They pray and pray and pray. A few birds come into their grasp and they sustain life a little longer. It rains and they quench their thirst a little. An airplane comes into sight, then passes away without seeing them. But at last they are rescued. The world is thrilled with the deliverance.

Hundreds of thousands of people eulogize prayer now who never thought much of it before. Millions are now singing "A Wing and a Prayer." Archbishop Spellman of the Roman Catholic Church writes a book on "The Second Front of Prayer," and Major Bowes spends thousands of dollars circulating it. Religious papers, and even secular papers, open their columns to eulogies on prayer. It would seem that America is about to become a praying nation. God bless America if this is true, and if Americans really mean it.

But do they? They may at the moment, but the moment is short. Many have a wrong, very wrong, conception of prayer in God's great plan. They think that no matter who or in what condition men pray, God will answer; that men can live about as they please, then turn and pray and he will open his ears and give temporal blessings. They have not tried to obey him. They have not become members of the Church for which our Savior died. They have not been "baptized into Christ". They have not tried to walk in the narrow way. They have lived for self, lived to have a good time, lived to lay up treasures on earth, lived to exalt themselves

above their fellows. Yet if they pray, he will heed them. This is their conception, but it is wrong, and may be the means of damning many a soul.

I say to you, fellow traveler to the judgment bar of God, if you are in deep trouble, pray and pray that God will be merciful to you, a sinner; but mean what you pray and turn with your whole heart to him and start to obey him in all his commands:

There are millions now praying only for temporal blessings. "Lord give me life—Lord, give me health—Oh God, spare my sweet-heart in the far-away battle-field—God give me good crops—Stop the war." They do not pray that their lives may be spared that they may spend them entirely to God's honor. They do not petition him to save them for greater usefulness in his Kingdom. They do not pray, as did Solomon, that He will give them wisdom that they may be able better to discharge their duties to their fellowman and thus to honor their Maker. How selfish they are! "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." God does not promise to answer such prayers.

Jesus puts some restriction on his answering prayers when he says: "**Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is in heaven.**" (Matt. 7:21.) Are you trying to find out what the will of the Father is? Are you diligently reading his word that you may learn? Are you throwing aside all prejudices and with open minds searching for the truth of God? And then are you just as diligently trying to do exactly what he says? If not, then Jesus himself is authority for the statement that you can not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Solomon, with the divine wisdom which God gave him, impressed this same important truth that we can not trifle with God. He said: "**He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.**" (Proverbs 28:9.) Here's a man who has heard the gospel invitation over and over, and has always turned a deaf ear. Here's another who was a church member, but has resisted again and again the invitation to come back to the Shepherd and Bishop of his soul, from whom he has wandered. God does not promise to answer their prayers for mere temporal blessings when they get into trouble. Not only does he answer them not, but their prayers are even an "abomination" unto him. What a saddening condition for one to get into—in which God says man's prayer is abomination to him!

Who do you think God is, anyway? He is sitting on the throne of the universe. He has given his law for man to obey. He reaches forth his hands all day long to a disobedient and gainsaying people. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come, and whosoever

will may come and take of the water of life freely." The Master pleads, "Come unto me all ye who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." But we refuse to heed the Spirit. We spurn the water of life. We reject the rest he promises to give us. And then—when an accident brings us to the shadow of death, we cry unto him, and expect him to answer us.

Do we think of God as a sort of spiritual molly-coddle, whose law we can trample under our feet; and then he will snatch us out of hell and take us home to glory? Is that our idea of God? If it is, the devil has put a lie into our hearts to deceive us, that we all might be damned who believed not the truth but **had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

The same Book which says that God is love, also says that "our God is a consuming fire." The same Volume which declares that He is long-suffering says also, "My spirit will not always strive with man." The same Being who says, "Come unto me," likewise says, when we repeatedly reject him, "Depart from me . . . into everlasting fire." God expects us to repent wholeheartedly of all our past sins, and turn away from them.

Perhaps we think we don't have to obey the gospel which Christ has commanded us to obey; that all will be well if we just live a moral life and pray to him. But what did Jesus mean when he said "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God"? (John 3:5.) "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law [of Christ] even his prayer shall be abomination."

On the day of Pentecost, Peter convinced his hearers that they had killed the promised Messiah, and when they cried, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Peter said unto them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for [into] the remission of your sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38.) Don't think that merely repenting and praying will give you, an alien sinner, the remission of your sins. That is man's way of getting salvation, but not God's. The safe thing is to obey God—"Repent and be baptized."

Of course, if you have already been baptized into Christ according to God's plan, and then have turned again to the weak and boggarly elements of the world, you are commanded, as an erring Christian, to repent and pray. When Simon had heard the Word and been baptized, and then afterward sinned, Peter said to him, "Repent therefore of **this, thy wickedness**, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee"—repent of his sin of trying to buy the gift of the Holy Spirit with money. (See Acts 8.)

Don't read the next passage thus, as many sectarians do: "For I perceive that thou art [still] in

the gall of bitterness." They insert the word "still" into the text, and say that Simon never was converted, and that hence an alien sinner is commanded to "repent and pray". But Simon had been baptized, and these people have simply ADDED to the Word of God, and you know the awful condemnation, "If any man shall ADD to these things, God will add unto him the plagues which are written in this book." (Rev. 22:18.)

The **erring Christian**, not the alien sinner, is commanded to repent and pray that his sins may be forgiven.

Christians are commanded, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." (Heb. 10:25.) Now if you get into your car on the Lord's day and go whizzing past the house of prayer, like the family in our picture, and thus turn away from hearing this law of God on meeting and worshipping, how can you hope that your prayer for temporal salvation from disaster be anything but an abomination before God?

Paul says: "Now the works of the flesh are manifest which are these: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness [lustfulness], idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance [strife], emulations [rivalries] wrath, strife, seditions, heresies [factions], envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings [and does not this include the dance?] and **such like**—of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that **they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God**" (Galatians 5:19-21.) Think you, dear reader, that the God of purity will save you while doing such things?

You are commanded to "love not the world, neither the things that are in the world," and yet if you turn away from hearing God's law, and dance and drink and gamble and commit fornication, do you think God will pick you up in your sins and whisk you off to heaven to sit among the pure and righteous of all ages? Already too many lies have been preached in funeral sermons to that effect, and they have given consolation to the wicked.

Don't misunderstand me. I say for you to pray, no matter who you are or what you have done—whether you have lied or robbed or envied or whored or even murdered—pray, pray for God to be merciful to you, a sinner; pray that He may spare your life that you may undo the evils you have done; pray that you may devote the rest of your days in honoring your Maker rather than reproaching him; pray that you may know his will to do it.

But mean what you say. Search the Scriptures to find what He wants you to do, then do that just as soon as you learn. Never relax for your search for his commands, for it is by obedience to his commands that you are saved. Continue to learn, con-

tinue to do, continue to grow. And there will be a happiness in your soul which has never been there before. You will have "the peace of God which passes all understanding".

Notice that I said you should pray even if you are a murderer. The people converted on the day of Pentecost were murderers—they had killed the Son of God. Saul of Tarsus stood by and consented to Stephen's death when he could have prevented it. Yet when the Lord appeared to him on his way to Damascus, Saul repented and prayed for three days and nights, and ate and drank nothing. The preacher finally came to him and said, "And now why tarriest thou? **arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.**" (Acts 22:16.) He was to continue to "call on the name of the Lord." But had he failed to arise and be baptized, think you that his sins would have been washed away? But he obeyed in fulness and was "buried with Christ in baptism," (Rom. 6:4), and immediately began to preach Christ and him crucified. We, too, must do the same as Paul, to receive the remission of our sins.

If you are an alien sinner, and have come to a realization that you must obey God, do it NOW. Tomorrow may be too late. If you are in the service of your country, go to your chaplain, tell him that you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that you repent of your sins, and wish to be buried with Christ in baptism to arise to walk in newness of life. He will see that your desire is fulfilled, and then you can go on your way rejoicing.

Oh, God, we pray for Christians that they may be more active in trying to win these lost souls to Christ; we pray that they may be more earnest in talking to others of their welfare for eternity, and in distributing Christian literature among them to try to cause them to think.

We pray for the lukewarm Christians, not that they may continue in such, but that they may repent and be whole hearted, remembering that Jesus himself has said, "Because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth."

We pray for all who read these lines that have never yet submitted to Thee. We ask that they may realize that soon, perhaps sooner than they think, they may appear at the judgment seat of Christ, to render an account of the way they have lived here; and we pray that they may repent NOW, and obey the gospel before it is too late.

We pray finally for this—that when the great Fight against Sin is over, we may all enter into the Soldier's Home above, into that rest that remains for the people of God. In the name of the Captain of our salvation.

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Infidelity

After having considered several brief articles dealing with the different phases of infidelity, in the preceding issues, we shall now make mention of an outstanding form of infidelity known as **Atheism**.

"Atheos—'without God.'" The atheist does not hesitate but after an egotistical manner he would boisterously affirm and assert that God is but a legendary character, existing only in the minds of the superstitious. How foolish he is to exalt himself as final critic in the face of evidence and demonstration, and say, "There is no God." How does he know, unless he is a God himself? Did this egotist search the arctic regions so he could be sure that God wasn't there? Then did he continue his search down towards the equator and be sure that he was nowhere on land, or sea, or in the air? Then did he continue his weary search to the antarctic regions and after thousands of years of exploring and investigation come to his conclusion? Foolish, isn't it? And after he did search from the north pole to the south pole, God could have changed his position and be back at the north pole again. No wonder David said in Psalms 14:1, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God."

How true are the words of Addison when he declared, "To be an atheist requires an infinitely greater measure of faith than to receive all the great truths which atheism would deny."

I feel that the arguments which I might produce would not leave a more lasting impression than the emphatic statements of those more learned than myself, consequently, ponder the thoughts contained in the following quotations.

"People do not give up God because there are arguments against His existence; they give up God because they object to His law."—Daniel A. Lord.

"The footprint of the savage in the sand is sufficient to prove the presence of man to the atheist who will not recognize God though his hand is impressed on the entire universe."—Hugh Miller.

"If a man of sober habits, moderate, chaste, and just in all his dealings should assert there is no God, he would at least speak without interested motives; but such a man is not to be found."—Bruyere.

"A little philosophy inclineth men's minds to Atheism; but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds to religion."—Bacon.

"What can be more foolish than to think that all this rare fabric of heaven and earth could come by chance,

when all the skill of art is not able to make an oyster? To see rare effects, and no cause; a motion without a mover; a circle, without a centre; a time, without an eternity; a second, without a first; these are things so against philosophy and natural reason, that he must be a beast in understanding who can believe in them. The thing formed, says that nothing formed it; and that which is made, is, while that which made it is not! This folly is infinite."—Jeremy Taylor.

"Up to the time I was in medical college I regarded myself as an unshakable, unconvertible atheist. Then one day something happened that changed my life. David Grant, a noted anatomist, was dissecting a body and lecturing to our class. Suddenly he paused, turned to us and said: 'Gentlemen, here in this human organism is a complete refutation of what is called atheism. No reasonable being can look upon the miraculous construction and arrangement of organs in this body without acknowledging that some Creative Power above and beyond human comprehension must have been responsible for them.'"—Orrin Keating, M. D.

In conclusion, please consider these thoughts, on unbelief in general:

"In all unbelief there are these two things: a good opinion of one's self, and a bad opinion of God."—H. Bonar.

"When once infidelity can persuade men that they shall die like beasts, they will soon be brought to live like beasts also."—South.

"All unbelief is the belief of a lie."—H. Bonar.

"There is one single fact which we may oppose to all the wit and argument of infidelity, namely, that no man ever repented of being a Christian on his deathbed."—H. Moore.—Harold Shasteen.

The Manifold Blessings of God

"Oh, that men would praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the Children of Men!"

Ingratitude on our part to God has somewhat become a commonplace in the hearts of men. Too often do we give credit for the accomplishments we have, and the comforts of life we enjoy daily to ourselves instead of to the One from whom all blessings flow. This ingratitude, I believe, does not come intentionally, but from a lack of a realization that God is the giver of every good and perfect gift. In considering the blessings we receive of him we are made to realize that neither time nor space would permit our enumerating them one by one.

But one may ask, "Do you mean to say that God has blessed me personally? I have never received anything that I consider has come from him." In reply I say that nothing that we have or have earned cannot be traced back to God. The Lord has given us this world with its scenic grandeur that cannot be reproduced by the hand of men. The earth has been given to us for our benefit, and as the source of all our food. The elements of which the earth is made have been placed in it to be used in any way we deem beneficial.

While it is true we cannot obtain these blessings without laboring for them, we know that God has given us the ability to work. The Lord has given us the land to till, the seed to plant, and the moisture for watering. These blessings from God have not been granted only to those that obey him but to all, as the scripture says, "He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." How true, then, is

the statement of the writer James. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the father of lights, with whom is no variableness neither shadow of turning.

In consideration, then, of a few of the temporal blessings mentioned, don't you feel that we should be a little more grateful for the blessings of life, for it is true that were it not for God's abundant storehouse of blessings we would be unable to exist? If we were more grateful for the things we do have we could be more contented and less dissatisfied with the things that do belong to us. Let us all praise the Lord for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men.

Next month we wish to consider a few of the spiritual blessings of God.—Wilbur Storm.

Foliage Versus Fruit

Almost everyone has an ideal of what a Christian ought to be. He is kind and helpful, temperate and just, patient and conscientious, filled with the love of God and his fellowman, adhering closely to the principles taught by Christ.

Imagine the disappointment one feels when he approaches a Christian and finds upon close examination that he is both inconsiderate and indifferent toward those deserving sympathy and understanding; careless in deed and word; slothful, impelled only by the desire to get by; filled with hypocrisy and conceit; envious, sensuous; seeking pleasure above service to God and man.

Christ came to a fig tree once expecting to find fruit but nothing was to be seen except leaves; consequently, the fig tree was cursed so that it withered away. When some one comes seeking your Christian fruits, do they go away disappointed at finding only leaves? If so, one day Christ's rejection of you shall wither your hopes for eternal life as his curse blighted the fig tree. That which you have will be taken away. You will be stripped of even your leaves to stand before those whom you have deceived. Be careful that your tree bears fruit along with its leaves else it will be cut down and cast into the fire.—Mabel Bandy.

Dog-Days and Julius Caesar

The issue of this paper which you now hold bears the date of July, 1943. The word "July" has an interest to the student of Roman history, who will recall that this was not the seventh but the fifth month originally, in the calendar. It was then called "Quintilis". The ancients said that "Dog-days" began on the third day of this month. I well remember when I was a youngster that we were cautioned against swimming in the period of time so designated. I wondered why the name and what its origin. I had to grow up and go to High School before I learned that it had nothing to do with shepherds and collies, mastiffs or dachshunds. Instead this time originally began with the heliacal rising of the star, Sirius, the dog-star, that is, the time when it rose just before the sun. Since this always happened to be the hottest period of the year, the oppressive atmosphere was thought to be the result of the conjunction of this star with the sun. We still use the term "dog-days" as applicable to the hottest portion of the year, but because of the procession of the equinoxes, we do not begin those days at the same date as did the Romans.

The name "July" was given to this month in honor of Julius Caesar who was born on the twelfth day of July. It would be an interesting thing for all of you to read the record of the events of the life of this great character who undoubtedly played a great part in the preparation for the spread of the gospel to the whole world, although he was ignorant of any such intention, being a pagan and ascribing to himself divine honors. He died just 44 years before our Saviour was born, on March 15.

But lest we think that we of this day have a copyright on all wisdom and knowledge I would like to refresh your minds concerning some of the accomplishments of Julius Caesar at the height of his power.

He envisioned the complete and permanent reconstruction of the government and social fabric. "He made the senate a much larger and more representative body, increased the number of magistrates, reduced by one-half the recipients of the donation of grain (government subsidy), passed several laws in the interest of the debtor class (mortgage-moratoriums), and of Italian agriculture (Farm labor board), inaugurated a far reaching plan to colonize in the provinces the unemployed population of Rome and Italy (Government rehabilitation and Colonization), and planned the codification of all laws, the erection of public libraries, the draining of the Pontine marshes, and the taking of a general census which should form a just basis for assessment of taxes throughout the empire". Now, a reading of the above with my interpolations shows that Julius Caesar had studied and learned nineteen centuries ago, the things that we are just beginning to find out in our United States Government today. It might not be a bad thing for some of our politicians to study the history of ancient empires and thus learn some principles which are applicable even yet.

One of the outstanding things which was done during the era of Julius Caesar was the construction of roads to every part of the Roman empire which at that time was THE WORLD. Over these roads a citizen could travel with the protection of a great government, and in event of emergency could "stand before Caesar's judgment seat" that is, appeal for a hearing before the pontifex maximus, Caesar himself. This shows us what a fortunate choice the Holy Spirit made of a man to declare the gospel to the Gentiles. Paul was a Jew, but a free-born citizen of Rome. The very mention of that latter fact often struck terror to the hearts of local politicians who had beaten or bound him.

Over the cross of Calvary, Pilate wrote an inscription, which was worded in three languages, Greek, Roman, and Hebrew. All of these nationalities had a definite part in the drama of gospel introduction to the world. The Jews gave us the Messiah, our Saviour! The Greeks gave us the most beautiful language of the ages in which to express the gospel! The New Testament was written in that tongue. But the Romans gave us the roads and the protection for the men who carried that gospel to every part of the universe. Ringing in their ears as they traveled were the commands of the lowly Nazarene, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel unto every creature". Had the world been split into warring tribes and nations this command would have failed, but strange it is and yet true, that just before the Christ was born in Bethlehem the whole world was subdued unto Rome and since Rome only of ancient nations believed in strength by colonization, she built connecting links to all portions of her far flung empire and once

again God in his mysterious way had performed his wonders by use of a heathen power.

Thus we in the church today are to some extent indebted to the man whose name gave us this month, and who himself designated that it should have 31 days. He was outstanding in history for two things: first, his sane perception of concrete facts; second, his indomitable energy. Perhaps we too could borrow those things from him in the church, and as we meet the foes of sin and overcome them, could send back the simple message which Caesar returned to the senate upon his conquest of Pharnaces, "Veni, vidi, vici". ("I came, I saw, I conquered".) —W. Carl Ketcherside.

How Aunt Sue Sought the Young Women

Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 we hear the cheerful voice of Aunt Sue as she greets her group as they enter her home for the third lesson. All present with Bibles and notebooks.

Well our lesson under consideration at this time is Our Influence as Christians. (Matt. 5:16.) "Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Please mark "good works." Keep in mind Jesus said, "Let your light shine." Now influence should begin right in the home and every day of our lives. Be it ever so humble there's no place like home. There our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth, and our daughters may be as cornerstones polished after the similitude of a palace. (Psa. 144:12.)

God has a plan for every detail of life. So to you young mothers I plead begin your teaching and Christian influence in the home, since the very hairs of your head are all numbered—evidently there's nothing too small for our Heavenly Father to take into consideration. So can't we see that he notices everything that so intimately touches and influences our lives.

And in this matter of dress let me urge you to follow God's divine plan. His plan never was and never will be the world's plan. His people are to be a peculiar people, zealous of good works. Now do not suppose for one moment that this signifies being odd, strange or different for the sake of just being odd. No indeed, because in 1 Tim. 2:9 we found God's plan for the Christian's dress. Remember He said for our dress to be modest. In Titus 2:3-4 those aged women were told to teach the young women. If we fail in our God-given duty we (the aged women) will stand before the judgment bar of God condemned.

Mothers, set the example of dressing yourself modest, and your children too. If the right habits are formed when your children are young those habits are apt to prevail in your life. Solomon says if you bring your children up in the way they should go, when they are old they will not depart from that teaching.

We as Christian people have received much instruction in regard to dress, if we read and study carefully. We have no excuse to follow ungodly fashions. In our homes our boys and girls must be trained. If we fail, God will hold us accountable for the precious souls of those children. If we tell them and warn them about the evil and ungodly fashions, words like that backed up by a consecrated life, will burn its way into the heart of that boy or girl and do much to mold a Christian character. Now for our questions by the group:

Should Young Sisters Wear Anklets to Worship: In the light of Matt. 5:16 I could not advise young sisters or old ones either to wear them to worship or any place for that matter, because naked legs would not become women professing godliness. This style started with little children in extremely hot weather as it was so much cooler and comfortable. Now all sizes up to married women wear them, and in cold zero weather, too. Don't reason teach us that if they are cooler in hot weather, they surely are very cold and uncomfortable in winter? Can't we see, girls, that is no reason at all, but just an excuse to be like the nations about us in their ungodly fashions? To the young women and girls, "Where is your influence leading you and your friends?" Think soberly.

We will continue our study on Influence for next lesson. Question by group: Is it wrong to go to the movie shows and such like?—Aunt Sue.

Meditatin'

The calling of Christians is sufficiently high. The love of God is sufficiently great. "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." This is enough to inspire us to seek the highest goals of life. If we have chosen this calling it behooves us to live in a manner becoming to our profession and worthy of our calling. "Laying therefore these promises, let us cleanse ourselves of all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."

Look at your life in the mirror. Is it adorned with such thoughts, speech, feelings and works as becomes a child of the Creator? Is there in your life something that a child of God should want to be rid of? Is the sacrifice to rid ourselves of blemishes and stains on our character too great to make, in view of the calling we have chosen? Is it really a sacrifice when we put off those things? Shouldn't we want to rid our lives of all in them that might mar? ". . . that others may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Christians, we are the light of the world. Is yours a hidden light, veiled by worldliness? We are the salt of the earth. Will your life stand when tested by the corollary: "If the salt have lost his savour . . . it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and trodden under foot of men." "But put you on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof."

James says that we must keep ourselves unspotted from the world. When we begin to study worldliness, and to check off those things which are not worthy of our Christian profession (hating even the garment spotted with the flesh), a cry goes up from the camp of "holy people": It is too much. We are only human! How many Christians excuse worldliness, and soothe an aching conscience, with that expression: We are only human! He just lifts the corner of the rug and sweeps the dirt under it.

Sometimes the "only human" Christians are reminded that there are Christians who keep themselves pure; who love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. But we are quickly shown that when a person looks at these brethren with certain viewpoint they take on a wholly different appearance. They become old fogies, narrow minded bigots and hobbyists, simply "lemons", "whited sepulchres". They are supermen untouched by the arrows that destroy ordinary men (although Elias

was a man subject to like passions as we are); or eccentrics who find no joy in doing the things that ordinary people like; or Pharisees putting on an outward show of piety and holiness, tithing in mint, anise and cummin, but neglecting weightier matters.

John told the Pharisees: "Bring forth therefore fruits worthy of repentance." We PROFESS to be, we should BE. Our high calling demands a high standard of conduct. We should train ourselves, not only to discern what is evil, but instantly to shun it, as the eye closes itself against the mote.

"You shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." — Kenneth Morgan.

Perplexity, Confusion

If in the history of man there ever was a time when thinking people understood the meaning of the above words, it is now.

People are perplexed, confused in every conceivable way, and yet willing to be led to do that which will lead them out of their temporal troubles. This is plainly seen when our Government issues an order for our people to obey. They almost to 100% become eager to obey, and for no other reason but to be led out of our difficulties. This displays the right spirit and attitude in these matters.

One of our great newspaper writers, Roger Babson, says: "The future of this nation depends on the motives and purposes of the people." This is the truth; so to save our national civilization from the extreme depth that perplexity, confusion, strife and selfishness will land us, we need as a nation (and urgently too) a revival of INTELLIGENCE, TO BUILD UP MORAL CHARACTER, AND A STRONG MORALITY TO ENCOURAGE A DEEPER INTEREST IN SPIRITUAL THINGS, the gospel of Christ (CHRISTIANITY) is the power, and the only power to change lives, communities, and civilization.

Much of the perplexity, confusion exists because of our right to use the public press, public platform, radio, etc. Yet if we were deprived of the right to use any one of these avenues in advancing the proper truths, it would be unfortunate. One of our great difficulties is, when we read from the press, hear a sermon over the radio, we take it for granted that the man told the unadulterated truth. Then we later on read or hear another, and lo and behold the latter one contradicts the first one that we heard. And then we hear the third one, and it does not agree with either of the two preceding ones we heard. So, there we are in the avenue of perplexity and confusion.

Now the question will arise, Who is to be blamed for our state of confusion? We must admit that something is wrong somewhere along the line. Could it be possible, that three men could preach the gospel with different ideas, contradicting each other and at the same time all be right? For example, one man or set of men preach and teach that the "Ten Commandments given by Moses are binding upon us today", another man or set of men preach and teach "The ten commandments are not binding on us", then a third set of men preach and teach that "There is nothing that we can do to merit our salvation." Now it seems to me that this example is plain

enough for us all to get the idea that something is gravely out of line. These men could all be wrong, and we know that **three wrongs will never make one right**. Then, too, we know that **there is only one right**, regardless of what we think about it.

After all, the sad thing is it seems that people allow themselves to be deceived by preachers and teachers, who handle the word of God deceitfully. (2 Cor. 4:2.) If we are in a state of religious confusion why not let us be as willing to be led out of it as the people of our nation are in a crisis. God is not the author of confusion, we all know this and will admit it, so why not train our minds to examine God's Word to see if what we hear is the truth? Search the scriptures to see if these things are the truth. God's word will lead us out of confusion, and the first thing it takes on our part is a deep sense of humility to put into practice, then a sincere faith to believe the Bible when rightly understood in these matters. Next to be sorry for your wrongdoing and repent without delay. Then have the noble courage to confess the name of God's Son in the presence of others. You are then ready to follow your Lord and Master into the water to be immersed for the remission of your sins; and when you do these things God will lift the veil from your eyes so that you will be better able to understand more about all this perplexity and confusion that is adrift in our sin sick world today. God has given the world his word for the purpose of leading them into light, but if we fail to be led by it then the matter rests with us, not with him. — C. J. Beidel.

Put the Blame Where It Belongs?

In "Sound Doctrine", published in Montgomery, Ala., we have this from one of its main writers, on the subject, "The Teaching Ability of an Elder":

"If the elders are to feed the flock, then they must have considerable ability, for all must be fed,—the weak and the strong. Not only are they to feed the flock, but they are to keep the wolves, or false teachers, from destroying the flock. **It is certain that God made the arrangements that the elders should feed the flock, and protect them from false teachers**, whether the false teachers were on the outside or inside of the church. Elders with such teaching ability will not let churches be led away with Modernism, Bolsism, or Warism. They will know their Bibles. It goes without saying that but **few congregations have elders of such ability**; but where there is such a fortunate congregation, it will not be lacking so far as competent teaching is concerned, nor will it need other teachers. Such a congregation can send preachers out to preach, and not call them in to preach to it. **If congregations had such elders, the havoc that is done to the church all along could be avoided. But where will we find such elders?**"

I give assent to that teaching, and no doubt the Gospel Advocate, Firm Foundation, Christian Leader, Bible Banner, and all the other papers which come to my table would say that that sentiment is true.

"Where will we find such elders?"—the writer asks. And I ask, "WHY do you not find such elders?" Do you not claim to be apostolic? The reason is, if I am to judge from writings in these papers, that the preachers and editors say a hundred times more about preachers and **THE DEVELOPMENT OF PREACHERS IN THEIR BIBLE COLLEGES**, than they do about the development of elders. I have not yet seen in their columns a serious

effort put forth to DEVELOP elders among them. No wonder they are dominated by a clergy, as H. Leo Boles, showed in our last issue, that they evidently are! The brethren who use the Macedonian Call to talk to each other in, have a whole lot to learn and do, but we are at least making a strong effort to develop elders for their work. I think these papers mentioned would better cease pounding the denominational world for its unscripturalness till they themselves get at least tolerably scriptural on a fundamental doctrine in the Bible.

Is the Story of Adam and Eve Only An Allegory?

In the "Ladies Home Journal" Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, "First Lady of the Land", was asked this: "Upon what basis do you say, 'We know the Adam and Eve story is not true?'" Mrs. Roosevelt answered thus: "On the basis of science. In one way, of course, the Adam and Eve story is true as an allegory, but when taught without interpretation, as many children learn it, it is not true."

In answering another person's question, she says, "I would teach the story of Adam and Eve as an allegory. It is difficult to accept the entire Old Testament in any other way".

So much of the Old Testament is, to her, only a MYTH. It is an allegory, she says, and an allegory is a prolonged metaphor, and a metaphor is a "figure of speech by which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is applied to another to suggest a likeness between them; as in 'the ship plows the sea'; 'a volley of oaths.'" The ship doesn't "plow", but that is a "metaphor" used to express something else. A description of one thing under the image of another. Representation by a figurative story of something metaphorically suggested, but not expressly stated, is an allegory, and that is all Mrs. Roosevelt can see in the story of Adam and Eve, and, if you please, much of the Old Testament, she says. This is one branch of **infidelity** and a very dangerous "branch" it is.

I think it would be well for the "first lady of the land" to remain in the political world, if that is her desire, and leave the Bible and Christianity unchallenged and uncriticized by her. This would be a very dangerous world to live in if we could make mankind, generally, believe the Bible is simply a **myth**. That is, a person or thing whose existence is imaginary or not verifiable. If we should make people believe that, then the Bible would be worth no more to us than any other book, such as novels and books of fiction. When those at the head of our Government begin to teach such as that it is about time for some one to inform them that they are out of their place, for it is bordering very near the very thing this war is partly over, and that is the trying to exterminate some of the religions, especially the Jewish religion.

To make mankind generally believe that the story of Adam and Eve, and much of the Old Testament is a "thing whose existence is imaginary or not verifiable"; that it is just a myth, or an allegory, is to destroy our faith in the truthfulness of that Book and, hence, to destroy our religion and Christianity.

Let some one tell me what we, the higher animal, are if the story of Adam and Eve be not a **FACT** but simply an allegory? What am I? What are you? Mrs. Roosevelt implies she has faith in the Christ, so I suppose she

believes there is a God. Well, it was God who said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness". (Gen. 1:26.) What, please, was made in the "image of God"? Was it the dog, the cat or what was it? Ah, my dear lady, you are **FORCED** to go to the story of Adam and Eve to find out. Again: "So God created MAN in His own image, in the image of God created he him: male and female created he them". (Gen. 1:27.)

Once more: "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and replenish the earth, and subdue it". (Gen. 1:28.) Here is a command given to them and the record says God gave this command to them, hence he or she who believes there is a personal God must accept this as a **TRUTH**, though some who claim to believe there is a personal God say this story is not true, for science teaches the earth was peopled long before the story of Adam and Eve, and our critic of this Biblical story says she would base her teaching on science, which contradicts the Bible.

But just one word in this last verse we referred to settles that question, and that word is "replenish" which means, "to complete or perfect, as by equipping fully", as well as, "To fill again; stock anew", etc. So it does **NOT** imply the earth had been peopled before. They were to "replenish the earth", "equip it fully", if you please. They were to "complete or perfect" what God had started, and not what man had started. To learn all this, and much more, our critic of the Adam and Eve story will have to go to that very story, for she can learn it nowhere else.

Before closing I wish to give another question asked Mrs. Roosevelt and her answer. Question: "Do you think women are wrong to plan to have babies in these times?"

Answer by Mrs. Roosevelt: "Certainly not. If you have faith in the future of our civilization, you must be willing still to continue to do your share to populate the earth".

You say her answer is correct, and so say I, only I would have stated **WHAT WOMEN**. But the thought is, she has here stated just what God stated in Gen. 1:28, so had to go to the story of Adam and Eve and, perhaps, knew it not. What I mean by "What Women" is this: Simply to state that **women** should do their part to populate the earth, might, to some, imply that widows, maids and even divorced women should take part in this, like they do in Germany today, so I read in literature concerning their immoral practice. I think, however, that Mrs. Roosevelt did not mean to make any such an implication, but to **some**, I said, it might imply such, so I would have stated as I said above.—W. G. Roberts, Hammond, Ill.

Hot? Don't Fuss! It's Healthful

"This hot weather is just what we need to help us live through the next winter." That was the comment made yesterday by Dr. Herman G. Morgan, Indianapolis, secretary of the Board of Health, who is somewhat inclined to welcome joyfully the arrival of really hot days. Dr. Morgan declared that hot weather, despite its uncomfortable features, is health-producing, and that long hours of sunshine have an adverse effect on harmful organisms rather than on the human body. "The sickness rate and the death rate are lowest during June, July and August. We are given an opportunity to lose, through perspiration, all of the poisons which have accumulated in our bodies during the past winter. Here are his health rules:

Eat moderately.

Eat at least one warm meal a day.

Avoid drinking too many ice cold beverages of all kinds, but drink plenty of water if it is not too cold.

Avoid fatigues.

Take frequent baths.

Elderly persons and those with circulatory or heart ailments should avoid the direct rays of the sun, he said, and infants and young children should be kept from any great amount of exposure to the sun during the middle of the day. Dr. Morgan emphasized that care should be taken in the protection of food for infants and children during hot days, particularly infants who are bottle fed. "Failure to keep milk used in infants' formulas under proper refrigeration is a frequent cause of intestinal disturbances," he said.

"A sudden drop in temperature has a more detrimental effect on the body than does a prolonged heat wave," he said. "Intestinal disorders are likely to result from a sudden chill. Avoid chills during the night by always sleeping with a light covering over the abdomen. This is necessary particularly as far as children are concerned."
—Daily Paper.

Where the Bombs Are Dropping—No. 2

The British now control much of the Mediterranean Sea; and where the British are, the bombs are dropping with telling effect.

It has been many years since our ship left Alexandria, Egypt, the port established by Alexander the Great, and turned its nose toward Messina, Sicily. We left on the right hand, the island of Crete where Paul warned the centurion who was taking him with many other prisoners to Rome, that disaster would come if they left the port. They disregarded his words of inspiration, and ran into the great storm which drove them for fourteen days and nights up and down in that part of the Sea which is south-east of the toe of the Italian boot. You remember the terrible suspense of all on board, how through those two weeks they ate and drank nothing, and how finally they were ship-wrecked, landing on the island of Malta, which is now a fort of the British and which has been bombed so many times.

As our great ship plowed along so majestically over that smooth sea that autumn day, I sat by the hour in the bow of it, gazing out over its glassy surface, thinking of how Paul was driven up and down in those waters so furiously. It was part of his hardship, endured for his Leader, Jesus Christ. Three times he suffered shipwreck, but as no other mention is made of them, I have often wondered whether they were as severe as this one. One was enough in the life of any man, but two others were added to it, as well as many other sacrifices for Christ. "But none of these things move me," he said. Yet we whimper at little inconveniences in our service for Christ. We ought to blush with shame.

At Messina we alighted from our ship, to tour the island of Sicily. As I write, hundreds of tons of bombs are being dropped on this, one of Mussolini's chief ports in the island. The city, you know, lies directly across the strait from the toe of the Italian boot.

From the city you look toward the south-west at Mt. Aetna, towering 10,000 feet in the air, one of the greatest volcanoes in the world. It is 90 miles in circumference at the base. There was probably a port at Messina when Paul sailed through the strait toward Rome, though the place is not mentioned in Scripture. He looked upon the

same hills and mountains that one looks upon today. But he did not stop there, though he did at Syracuse, about half way down the eastern coast of the island.

Traveling south from Messina on the railroad, one comes to Taormina, about 25 miles distant, and much nearer the base of Aetna. We stop because of the famed view of the sea, the volcano, and the mountains around. Possibly the most beautiful sunsets in the world are in southern Italy and Sicily. It seems that there are so many little clouds, and all of these are tinted with many colors of the departing sun.

We climb up the high hill, about 750 feet above the sea-level, and take our stand in an old Greek theater, part of which will date back long before Christ. What a majestic sight in the evening when the sun is going down! The sea, the mountains, the great volcano with snow on its summit, the historic ruins dating back 2500 years, and above us almost all the colors of the rainbow scattered over the whole heaven!

Many people view a glorious sunset, and say, "Aint it purty!" and pass on with their earthly affairs. Maybe not many are like the writer. It overwhelms me. Hundreds of times, in our own land, and in many lands, have I scrambled to the top of a high place on a hill or a mountain or gone to the window of my up-stairs bedroom to view the glories of departing day. Nothing makes me think more of the beauties of that land toward which we are struggling. And nothing, too, is so emblematic to me of the life of man—the sunrise of youth, the meridian of middle life, the sunset of old age. The close of day and the close of life are so much alike that poets have written of it through the ages.

Standing in the midst of such grandeur and solemnity, I repeated to myself my favorite hymn which I have repeated or sung so often in such surroundings:

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide,

The darkness deepens, Lord, with me abide,

When other helpers fail and comforts flee,

Help of the helpless, O, abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day,

Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;

Change and decay in all around I see;

O, Thou who changest not, abide with me.

God's Way Is Best, After All Is Said

There is much, very much, being said today about juvenile delinquency, and most of the blame is thrown back on the parents. In a recent "state convention of the Indiana Disciples of Christ", in Kokomo, Ind., the Rev. Mr. Lentz said, "When the home fails, church school attendance fades and crime grows. . . The church needs to educate the persons of every age in their family responsibilities."

This is the tenor of most of the constructive criticisms. But we solemnly ask, What has become of the great influence of the Sunday school? For several generations, they have been boosting to the skies, this human organization, but now they find it is a failure UNLESS THE HOME IS BACK OF IT.

In the first place, it has always seemed illogical to me, that the study of the Bible for 15 minutes ONCE A WEEK could be a substitute for that study for 15 minutes EVERY DAY in the home. And when I use the word

"substitute", I mean that very thing. Though I believe that Bible classes BEFORE the hour of worship, or any other time, under the leadership of the leaders of the church, are not contrary to any scripture of God, yet when such becomes a substitute for home training they are an evil.

This Christian Church preacher is seeing the light when he says, "The Church needs to educate the persons of every age in their family responsibilities." That is God's way, and the publisher of the Macedonian Call has been trying to do that very thing personally and through the paper for many years.

The Church By the Side of the Road

Through the mist of years I can seem to see
The church of my childhood days;
And its memories sweet, so with joy replete,
Shall live in my heart always.

Then on memory's page I can see again
The church by the side of the road;
And wherever I roam, it is guiding me home,
The church by the side of the road.

And the old, old songs that we used to sing,
I'm singing them o'er and o'er;
They give strength and cheer when the clouds draw near,
And lead to the other shore.

At the place of prayer, in that little church,
I knelt at my mother's side;
There the Lord I found, it is holy ground,
The One who for sinners died.

There's a hallowed spot 'neath the old pine tree,
Where mother was laid to rest;
What a joy 'twill be, her dear face to see
With Him that I love the best.

—W. C. Poole.

Church News

Said the soldier as he passed solemnly away, to sacrifice for his country: "Bro. Sommer, tell the brethren to keep something worthwhile for us to come back to." Dear Brother B—, we WILL have something worthwhile for you and the other soldiers, when you come back. How many of our readers say, "Amen" to that? Well, write it in our columns.

Shippensburg, Pa.—Gas rationing is stopping us from doing a lot that would help the work here in the east. Our restrictions are more severe here than out your way. We have worked hard this spring on our place but it looks very nice now. But it ties us down, and we feel like we would like to devote the rest of our time to the work of the church and will no doubt if we can sell our home here, and relieve ourselves of some of this temporal responsibility. The church is getting in condition now that we can leave and work elsewhere. The new members are developing nicely.—C. J. Beidel.

St. Louis, Mo.—Thanks for the copy of the book "The Man on the Horse." It is deeply interesting and should be profitable to any student of the Bible. Send 19 more copies against the enclosed check for \$2.00. Work here progressing nicely.—Leonard Bilyeu.

Kansas City, June 22.—This is to tell you I am out of the hospital and at home at 2836 Spruce Ave., K. C., Mo. I am doing fine though mighty weak from a major operation for tumor of the stomach. I was in the hospital from April 28 to June 12.—J. Oscar Paisley.

Cawker City, Kans.—Our two short meetings this spring proved profitable, besides edifying the church and building respect for her in the community. One was added by baptism

during Winford Lee's meeting and two from the Christian church during Roy Harris'. A young man was added from the Christian church last Sunday. Our local membership is now more than 33% new members.—H. B. Van de Riet.

Anselmo, Neb.—Lord's day services at the little school house, two and one-half miles from Broken Bow on Highway No. 2, still continue. Attendance about the same as usual. One family connected with the church moved away this spring. We are now looking forward to having Bro. R. O. Webb with us for a short meeting in July.—Mrs. Roy Wilson.

Redondo Beach, Calif.—The church here is progressing very nicely. Good attendance each Lord's day. We have our lesson in the morning in the New Testament and some brother gives a lesson and we break bread. In the afternoon we are studying the Old Testament and developing singing. We recently have had a Brother Acre and family come in with us. He is very devoted and is a lot of help in many ways. Lately we've had several visitors from other places: Sister Loney of Colorado, Sister Allen of Sunland, Calif., Sister Beryl Bailey of Chillicothe, Mo. We are always happy to have visitors from other places. In the name of the Lord may we all go forth a united people is our prayers.—S. J. Weaver.

Gallatin, Mo.—Our building fund increasing steadily. Attendance good—sometimes local outside attendants at the regular weekly meetings. We insert a church notice in each issue of the local weekly newspaper stating there is a change in the development program each week. We also announce the subject when there is to be preaching and give any other special information, and most cordially invite the public to attend all services. When they come we try to make them feel welcome. Bro. Hubert Long of the Coast Artillery, U. S. Army, Camp Pendleton, Virginia, was home over the week end and we were glad to have him meet with us again. Also pleased that some Kansas City brethren were present. May the Church of Christ at Gallatin be recognized as a power for good in this community more and more as the days go by.—D. Patterson.

Brookport, Ill.—It is a pleasure to hand you check for \$2.00 for fellowship from the Brookport Congregation. In the M. C. I think you are getting out a good paper and trust that you may continue to do so, and that the brotherhood could appreciate what all this means to the true church. Wishing you continued health and freedom of speech and the press, I am as ever, your brother in Christ.—A. T. Kerr.

(This church has done this each month for many years, and oh, what a help it has been to us, as we struggled to save a remnant.—Editor.)

I am in a meeting with the little church near Royal, Arkansas. We are having pretty good attention among those who attend. The church is very weak, but they keep struggling on and I believe they are making some progress. They have been strengthened a great deal by the coming of Brother Hubert Land, formerly of the congregation at Mattoon, Illinois. Pray for this little group of brethren that they may have strength and courage in their fight here against huge odds. They are isolated in the midst of the college churches which makes their fight even harder. My next work will be with the brethren at Sullivan, Illinois.—Kenneth Morgan, Route 1, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

"To Every Creature."—Christ commanded his apostles to preach the gospel to every creature. The gas rationing, and general unsettled condition in the world now, is hindering such work. Why not SEND the gospel "to every creature" you can think might be interested? EVERY issue of the Macedonian Call now is a missionary number, and we think the illustrations on first page will attract attention. Maybe you have taken a religious census of your community—why not send the "prospects" the M. C. for six months or a year? You have found some prospects through your Vacation Bible Study—why not send them the M. C. to help keep their interest alive? You know many people in your community who have never heard the gospel in its purity and simplicity—why not SEND it to them? Read elsewhere in this paper how that W. Carl Ketcherside found the Macedonian Call, with printed cover, in the public library in St. Louis, and how the papers had been well used. Why not see that YOUR library receives these missionary papers now? Why not get a bundle of ten or more EACH MONTH and send or hand them out? The spirit of that Great Commission applies to us, and if we can't "Go", we can SEND. But are we doing it?

In bundles of 10 or more each month, 3c a copy.

Estacada, Ore.—The few who are faithful met as usual Lord's day for Bible study and worship. There were 8 adults and 2 children. Our daughter, who is a faithful member, will soon move with her family about 80 miles away, for which we are very sorry, and will miss her greatly as she has been doing most of our song leading. It will be impossible for them to attend much on account of gas rationing. We certainly have enjoyed the Simplified New Testament, also the new book, "The Drama of World Empires, or the Man on the White Horse"; last but not least, the good reading the M. C. is sending forth, especially Aunt Sue's good lessons to the young women. We have a number of good tracts "Old Covenant Done Away," by J. D. Powers. Any wishing some of same send to address below. They are free for the asking.—Mr. and Mrs. A. Douglass, P. O. Box 92, Estacada, Oreg.

Glendale, Ariz.—The church here at Glendale has asked me to make the monthly report, so I'll pick up my pen and write what news I know. As for myself, I've just returned from a 15-day furlough which I enjoyed very much. The first Sunday I was in K. C., Mo., and had the pleasure of meeting with the congregation at 26th and Spruce, and it certainly seemed good to see familiar faces again. The next Sunday I was at Gallatin, Mo., where I had the pleasure of meeting with my home town congregation. When I returned to my base here at Phoenix I was happy to see Mrs. Sanderson back from the east where she had been visiting her son, who at the time was stationed at Jefferson Barracks, near St. Louis, Mo. Mrs. Sanderson also visited friends and relatives in Iowa. I came to Luke Field in September of 1941. I feel that I have been very fortunate in that I am stationed where I have an opportunity to attend a true Church of Christ. So far I have been fortunate enough to attend very regularly. I know it is my duty, as a Christian soldier, to attend church every opportunity I have. The brethren here at Glendale are improving considerable in the work of the Lord, due chiefly to the development work outlined by Bro. Bennett. We meet one hour early each Sunday evening and practice, reading, prayer and communion, etc. In conclusion I want to say that never before have I witnessed a more sincere hospitality than the brethren and sisters have shown to me here at Glendale. They have made their home my home and I feel very grateful to them. A soldier and brother in Christ.—Eben Smith, 542nd S. E. F. T. S., Luke Field, Phoenix, Ariz.

Brethren, you have noticed that for months, even years, we have tried to stir on DEVELOPMENT by emphasizing in bold face all such work. And I am sure it has done good. What I should like to see is this: A report from EVERY church now and then, at least, that would merit the bold face publicity. If you are not doing any developing, why not commence now, then write it to the brotherhood. It may help encourage others, just as the Developing which some have reported, has encouraged others. Let us build for the future.

Brixey, Mo.—It was recently my privilege to be associated with Bro. Carl in the work at Kirksville, Mo. This work was to me both enjoyable and profitable. Spent three very pleasant days in Des Moines, Iowa, with the Dean Avenue Church. My next effort was with the small but faithful group at Dentonia, Kans. Our meeting was very short, slightly more than a week. We had preaching at night and a Bible study for children each morning. Good interest in both the preaching and children's study. Two placed membership from the Christian Church. Prospects seem brighter than at any time since I have known the church there. Found a real "preacher's home" in the home of Brother and Sister Van de Riet. Began last night with the Green Mound congregation.—Roy Harris.

Bridgeport, Conn.—Church here still making the effort to keep alive New Testament Christianity. A young husband made the good confession and was baptized into Christ the 19th of May. On June the 13th his wife and another young lady confessed their faith in their Savior and were buried with their Lord in baptism at the conclusion of the evening service. Will be here until the latter part of July, then the Lord willing, I expect to return to the middle west for a number of meetings, beginning at Excelsior Springs, Mo., the first part of August. The church here is surrounded by all sorts of lams and much indifference. Difficult to find those who are interested in pure and undefiled religion. These few additions represent the only visible results of much personal work, tract passing, Bible teaching and preaching.—Robt. H. Brumbaek.

Listen, brethren, read carefully the exhortation and call to

repentance on page one. Our artist could not have done a better job than she did. This is only the beginning. We hope to have a picture and exhortation just as good in EVERY issue. We intend to go after sin with all the fervor of our soul, sin in all its forms. There is much, very much, to be desired among the Churches of Christ represented by the Macedonian Call, but we are disciples, learners, trying to learn more; yet I am happy to state this: I know personally every writer for this paper, I think, and yet I do not know of a single one who dances, or plays cards, or goes to picture shows with all their damning influence, or that even uses tobacco. From the depths of my heart, I thank God for this, and say to you that we have a foundation on which we can build a true Israel of God, if only we will work as we should. But oh, brethren there are 130,000,000 people who ought to read these Calls to Repentance. How many copies will you take EACH ISSUE to distribute and thus to help enlighten these millions? Make the Home Front Strong.

If He should come today and find I had not told
One soul about my Heavenly friend,
Whose blessings all my way attend,—
What would He say?

Brookfield, Mo.—After reading your book "The Drama of World Empires," enclosed find P. O. moneyorder for copy you sent me, also six other copies for brethren and friends. I think it a great help in studying the Bible, especially Daniel's Prophecies. The little stone which was cut out without hands should concern us all first, last, and all the time; but is it? Yours for a Pure Kingdom.—G. R. Blankinship.

Miscellaneous.—Why not put the Macedonian Call in your city library. People who now are thinking of religious matters may learn of the simplicity in Christ? \$1 a year, or 75 cents, if you send it with a club. And see that it is renewed when the time is out. . . The members of the family who are away working in defense plants, need good religious literature the same as soldiers in the camps. . . The hot summer weather is now here when receipts for a religious paper fall the lowest in the year. But remember that our printer still has to be paid. Thanks. . . When you receive through the mails, calls for help on church houses, or anything else religious, pay no attention to it, unless you learn from reliable sources that the call is all right. You don't wish to help people to stay in Babylon. . . While some are talking about "bundles for Britain" why not talk about "Bundles of M. C.'s for bombing the devil"? In bundles of ten or more each month, three cents each copy. . . Try to have your manuscripts and reports at this office by the 25th of the month.

The Lord's Supper was evidently given to touch our hearts with the great truth that Christ gave his life for us. We should make its observance as impressive as we can. What touches our hearts when brethren get up and merely say, "We all know the purpose of this institution, and let us stand and give thanks"? Or, "This is a command for us to meet and break bread, and we should do it"? Why not, rather, give some incident of sacrifice or devotion in Christ's life, which will help draw us closer to Him and to one another? Why not, before we partake, sing softly a stanza of My Faith Looks Up to Thee; or, Night with Ebon Pinion; or, Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross; or, My Jesus, I Love Thee? Instead of observing the Supper as an isolated event, why not link it with some things which have been said before, showing that, in fact, all the service leads to Christ who died for us? In the great stress of these times, we need all the spiritual strength we can get.

Bonne Terre, Mo.—It will soon be three months since Sister Roberts and I arrived at Bonne Terre, Mo., where we expect to work with the church most of the time for at least one year. The brethren thought that I should preach every Lord's day until the protracted meeting which began on May 30th, with Bro. Johnny Rhodes doing the preaching. The month prior to the meeting I visited approximately 200 homes talking of things pertaining to the Kingdom of God. Bro. Rhodes presented the gospel in a very able manner, and though the attendance was not what was wished, three were added by baptism, and seed sown for a future harvest. Our fourth annual Vacation Bible Study was conducted the first two weeks of the meeting. Our high attendance was 54, with an average of 40 for each day. I have the address of every pupil and am making a canvass of the homes in an endeavor to get new students in the Lord's day Bible study. We had nine new students last Lord's day, others

have promised and the canvass is not completed. Three sisters ably assisted in the teaching. Two had not had former experience in this line. The Wednesday evening study is in the Old Testament. One week out of every four, five of the brethren are assigned five-minute topics from subject matter previously covered. We are working out a program for mutual edification every other Lord's day. There will be two speakers, each allowed 15 minutes. I will assist in selection, and preparation (when needed) of subjects. We have a class for the young people each Friday evening. Sister Roberts is assisting the sisters of the congregation in a Thursday afternoon study. Our aim is, "every member a worker."—L. C. Roberts.

Saint Louis, Mo. (June 26, 1943).—Eight more added this month in the city, with two restored. Four were baptized. Vacation Bible Studies are in full swing with three St. Louis churches and Hartford, Ill. The four places will reach about 400 children during the course of the two weeks. Follow-up work will be done on all families not connected with the church. Good attendance for summer months is being registered at all places for the regular meetings. Herewith is a list of prayer meeting activities each week in St. Louis.

Lillian Avenue: Children's Study taught by my wife; Development and Public Speaking Class for the young people, taught by Brother Leonard Bilyeu, an elder; special study in the Roman letter taught by myself. This is with a select group of brethren designated by the eldership for the study with a view to development of future teacher material; adult Bible Study class taught by an appointed leader. This is each Thursday night.

Manchester Avenue: On Wednesday nights. A study of the book of Mark directed by Carter Honn, with a view to getting audience participation. Bibles are furnished all in the audience and kept open at all times for the study. Most of the hundred persons present take part.

Webster Groves: Friday nights. Development in song leading, public speaking, teaching, waiting on the Lord's table, leading in prayer, and every other activity of the church. In this everyone from the young members to the elders take part seeking to develop their ability further and iron out their mistakes. Brother Emery Smith, an elder, has conducted this in recent weeks with excellent success. Each time I return home from a meeting I note an improvement in the work. Pray for us that we may continue to grow.—W. Carl Ketcherside.

Saint Louis, Mo.—Our work at Springfield, Ill., came to a close after two weeks on June 13. Three were immersed into Christ who will be put directly into the work of the congregation. I was on the air with a daily afternoon broadcast of the gospel which put our plea into scores of homes of non-members. I received 43 cards and letters on the sermons for the six days, and we know of several who were led to look up the church after hearing the broadcast. We are now working on a proposition to sponsor a Sunday afternoon Church of Christ half hour this fall and winter on a stronger station, which will let us reach much of Indiana as well as Illinois, Kentucky, and parts of Missouri. The church at Springfield has a good program, using all of their talent. Small in numbers they are rich in faith. Let all who pass through there visit them at 1015 South First Street.

In St. Louis, I performed a wedding for Creed Thomas and Lorene Cooper, night of June 19. Both are faithful members at Manchester. On June 20, I visited in home of Bro. F. A. Ditrack and held a little service at 8 a. m., then drove to Sullivan where I preached in the morning, performed a wedding for Pvt. Billy Baumgartner and Joy Frederick in the afternoon. The bride is a granddaughter of Bro. Noah Smith, an elder at Sullivan. Both parties are members of the church. At the night service, three came forward to supplement the one added at the morning service. We drove to a lake and baptized after services. Two of those added were parents of the young man who was married in the afternoon.

Am now supervising three Vacation Bible Studies. On June 26 will perform a double wedding at Lillian Avenue, then drive to Festus to visit meeting of John Rhodes, and on to Fiat River for service the next morning, and back to Festus for Sunday night.—W. Carl Ketcherside.

Saint Louis, Mo.—Dear Brother Sommer: Recently I had occasion to visit our large library downtown, which is one of the most outstanding in volume content in the middlewest. As is my wont I went to the large periodical room, and while investigating the magazines in the neat racks, I saw one which gave me a thrill.—The Macedonian Call. The library had furnished

a regular book cover with the name stamped in large letters, indicating that it was an approved and accepted journal for the Periodical Division. I opened the cover and saw that the paper had been well-read. I wondered how many who have spent hours in the cool recesses of this huge room have heard our plea through these pages. Herewith I issue an invitation to everyone who sees this paper in the Saint Louis library to learn more of our plea. Do not let this issue be your last investigation of the Church of Christ. In the metropolitan area you'll find churches at East Maple St., Hartford, Ill.; 29th and Washington, Granite City, Ill.; 5344 Lillian Ave. and 7121 Manchester Avenue, St. Louis; and 412 Queen St., Webster Groves. There's a welcome awaiting you at any of these active churches. Come and meet with us. Or call my number CABany 4547, and someone will call upon you to converse with you about the gospel. The congregations mentioned above stand foursquare with the principles taught in this paper, for they are in harmony with the Word of God. If you are a Christian come and help us; if you are not a Christian, come and let us help you.—W. Carl Ketcherside.

A TRIBUTE TO DAD

Mom always gets the credit for
The lovely house she keeps,
The way in which she rears us kids
And keeps us all so neat.

And guests most always will exclaim
About the food we eat.
They praise her cooking as the best,
I know she's hard to beat.

But never do they think of Dad
Or give him any praise,
But I'll just tell you here and now
He has the nicest ways!

If anything gets busted up
And needs a little glue,
Mom says to Dad, "Can you fix this?"
My Dad can fix it, too.

I know my mom can cook just fine,
But Dad works every day
To buy the things we have to eat
So mom can cook that way.

And my Dad's garden you should see
The lovely things to eat,
His tulip beds and glads, I know
You'd say are hard to beat.

My Dad's as patient as can be,
He hardly ever scolds,
But when he does, you bet your boots
We do as we are told.

Something Worth Knowing.—Recently Fred Rows, publisher of Christian Leader, reported that he had had a bad case of hiccoughs which lasted him a couple of days. While waiting in a doctor's office, a nurse connected with a great city hospital, told him to get a paper bag large enough to cover his head, such as one would get with a large assortment of groceries, and put it over his head and tie the bottom closely around his neck. I suppose that was so he would breathe the same air again and again. He said he did it, and that in two minutes, his hiccough stopped and had not returned.

EXCUSES ARE ONLY CRUTCHES

"The house that claims our Sunday care,
The clothes our pride forbids us wear,
The week's accumulated gain,
The clouds that threaten Sunday rain,
The rest our weary bodies crave,
The health which only rest can save.
What are these excuses?"

"A crutch for folks with wobbly knees,
A germ of every soul's disease,
A balm for reason's lame conclusions,
A garb to dignify delusions;
A drug for conscience ill at ease,
A microbe spread by absentees,
A dagger through the heart of giving
A smoke screen for sinful living."